



VADM Norbert R. Ryan, Jr. USN (Ret)  
President

January 11, 2005

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

03-133  
RECEIVED

MAR 11 2005

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing on behalf of the 368,000 members of the Military Officer Association of America (MOAA) to express concern over a pending FCC ruling (Docket 03-133) which could result in higher charges and access fees for pre-paid calling cards. We believe this action would have a decidedly negative impact on our servicemembers and their families.

An estimated 95% of service men and women use pre-paid calling cards to keep in touch with their families while deployed. Raising these costs by a reported 20% in a time of war would be unacceptable, and sends the wrong signal to our troops in the field. Servicemembers depend on this affordable means of communication to maintain a link with home while deployed. Raising costs would have an adverse affect on morale and could not come at a worse time.

We urge your consideration in denying any increase in calling card user fees while thousands of troops remain deployed overseas in the War on Terrorism.

Sincerely,

*Thank you for your service and leadership!*  
*Norbert R. Ryan*

No. of Copies rec'd 2  
List ABCDE